

Abstract

Behavioural disinhibition has been regarded as the most valid candidate endophenotype of Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). This study is to testify if it is also the most representative endophenotype to Chinese ADHD children, provided that recent genetic study in Hong Kong has discovered different allele of the dopamine receptor gene DRD4 as the plausible candidate gene of ADHD, compared with those findings in the Western countries. 73 Han Chinese boys with ADHD and 61 matched controls were recruited to go through a series of IQ, literacy and neurocognitive tests, including Stroop and Stop-signal tasks. ANCOVA analysis showed that ADHD has significantly more attention lapse than the control group, but no other obvious deficits in interference control and response inhibition. The results were explained in terms of different response strategies, post-error slowing and speed-accuracy trade-off, etc.